

COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED ALTERATION OF THE SPELLING OF  
*GRACILLARIA* HAWORTH, 1828. Z.N.(S.) 1757By P. E. S. Whalley (*British Museum (Natural History), London*)

We are opposed to the proposal which would alter the original spelling of *Gracillaria* Haworth, 1828.

Paragraph 1 of the proposal by Zimmermann and Riley contends that Haworth mis-spelled the word. There is no evidence for this. Haworth consistently used *Gracillaria* with a double "l" six times in the text and once in the Index. The Proposers attribute the mis-spelling to incorrect latinisation of the word. Article 32a(ii) of the Code specifically states that improper latinisation is not to be considered as an inadvertent error, and the original spelling of the name is to be retained.

In paragraph 2, referring to Zeller's alteration of the spelling, the Proposers say "Zeller emended the spelling without specifically stating that he was so doing". Zeller's alteration must therefore be treated under Article 33 as an incorrect subsequent spelling, since he made no comment. By contending that Zeller "emended" the spelling, the Proposers are introducing the requirements of the Code. In paragraph 2 the Proposers reiterate the incorrect latinisation, which is unacceptable under the Code.

Paragraph 3 of the proposals states "Considerable confusion exists in the literature because of the variant spellings of this generic and family-group name". This is an exaggeration of the position. There exist two spellings of the genus and family name, one with a single "l", one with a double "l". No confusion has arisen as to what was intended with either spelling. The original spelling has been retained by about as many workers as have used the altered version. For example, Curtis 1833, Duponchel 1835, Bainbrigge-Fletcher 1929, Kloet & Hincks 1945, Vari 1961, have used *Gracillaria* while Zeller 1839, Stainton 1854, Meyrick 1895, Staudinger 1901, Forbes 1923, have used *Gracilaria*.

We ask the Commission:

- (1) to reject the proposal to alter the original spelling of *Gracillaria* Haworth, 1828.
- (2) to place the generic name *Gracillaria* Haworth, 1828, type-species by subsequent designation, *anastomosis* Haworth, 1828, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) to place the family-group name GRACILLARIIDAE Stainton, 1854 (an incorrect original spelling for GRACILLARIIDAE) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology.
- (4) to place the family-group name GRACILLARIIDAE Stainton, 1854 (type-genus *Gracillaria* Haworth, 1828) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.

This proposal is supported by the following:

British Museum (Natural History)	
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The case rests primarily upon the application of Article 32 of the Code, and whether or not "there is in the original publication clear evidence of an inadvertent error". Immediately after the generic name *Gracillaria* in Haworth 1828 (Lepidoptera Britian-